

Missouri Guard sends 84 to Gulf Coast

Soldiers answer the call for help in Louisiana



Photo by Senior Airman Joe Lacdan

Army Private 1st Class Ashley Cox and Spc. Shavon Wesley-Claxton prepare deployment gear Tuesday.

By Senior Airman Joe Lacdan
Public Affairs

The Missouri Army National Guard deployed 84 troops from Whiteman to the Louisiana-Gulf Coast region in support of the ongoing hurricane relief effort.

The Soldiers will provide security and relief to displaced citizens in the aftermath of hurricanes Katrina and Rita.

“This is what the National Guard is made for,” said Army Capt. Chris Moenster, the executive officer during the 35-day deployment.

“Yeah we deploy and we fight

the global war on terrorism. But one reason we exist is to help our fellow Americans. I’m happy that we can help in this time of need.”

The Soldiers left in high mobility multi-purpose vehicles and cargo trucks and will first travel to the site that was England Air Force Base, in Alexandria, La., to pick up food, water and medical supplies to deliver to the displaced citizens. They carried enough equipment to last them for five days before the 656-mile drive.

Captain Moenster said he doesn’t know the Soldiers’ final

destination, but he said it will likely be Lake Charles, La., or New Orleans.

“I’ve had Soldiers say, ‘Hey, this is why I joined the guard,’” he said. “Everyone seems really excited and proud to be a part of this.”

While their primary task will be providing security, the Soldiers will be ready for other duties.

Citizens may need transport through high-water areas and the Soldiers will also provide a military presence to maintain order.

See **SOLDIERS**, Page 9

Rebirth of a squadron

13th BS moves from Dyess to Whiteman

By Melissa Klinkner
Public Affairs

The 325th Bomb Squadron, one of two operational B-2 squadrons here, was redesignated as the 13th Bomb Squadron in an activation ceremony Sept. 23.

The redesignation was due to a consolidation of the B-1 Bomber force at Dyess Air Force Base, Texas. This change allowed the transfer and rebirth of the 13th Bomb Squadron’s rich history from Dyess to Whiteman. No additional people or aircraft are assigned here.

“We’re thrilled to become a part of this historic squadron and to carry on its out-

standing tradition and legacy for years to come,” said Lt. Col. Thomas Bussiere, 13th Bomb Squadron commander.

The 13th BS, was born in 1917 as the 13th Aero Squadron. Between 1917 and 1918, an image was emblazoned on one of the unit’s aircraft that would come to be forever associated with the squadron – that of a skeleton mowing with a yellow scythe. With the skeleton called Oscar as their mascot, the 13th BS “Devil’s Own Grim Reapers” became one of the most historic bomber units in the United States Air Force.

The Reapers fought alongside General Douglas MacArthur in the Pacific theater of World War II. During the Korean War, fly-

ing the B-26 Invader, the squadron suffered the first casualties of the war and flew thousands of sorties against enemy targets. In Vietnam, the 13th BS flew B-57s from Ubon Royal Thai Air Base, Thailand on night strikes against the enemy. They also took part in missions during Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom.

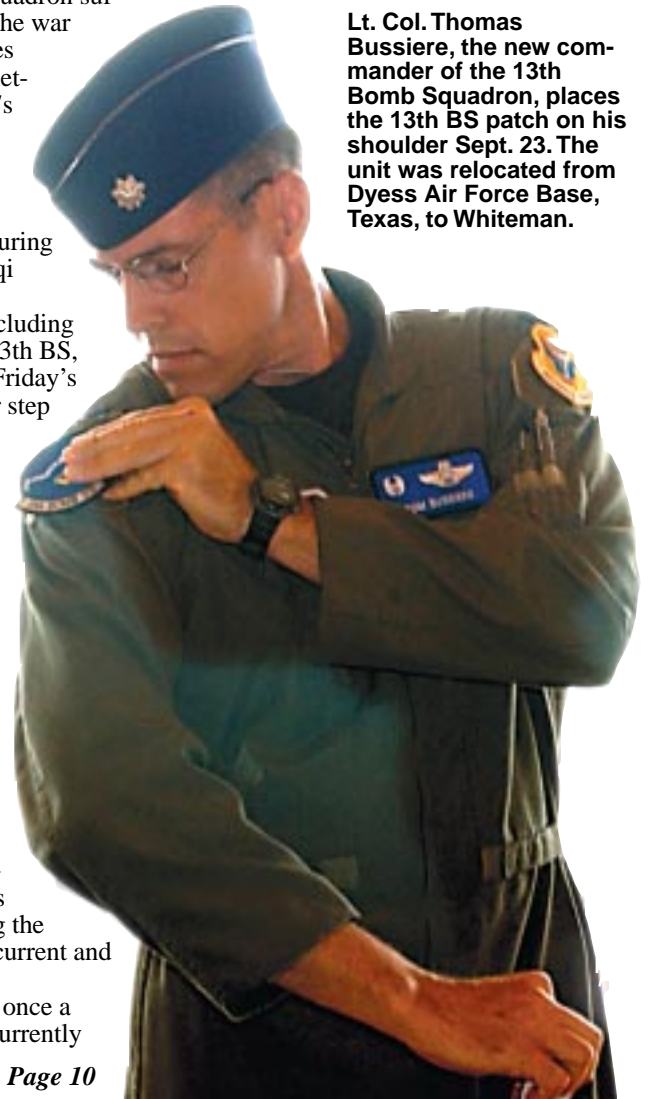
A total of 180 people, including 45 retired members of the 13th BS, and their spouses attended Friday’s event to support yet another step in the history of this squadron.

As an integral part of the activation ceremony, the former 325th Bomb Squadron replaced the 715th Weapons Squadron and became the 325th Weapons Squadron. Although geographically located here, the 325th Weapons Squadron is actually a part of the U.S. Air Force Weapons School, 57th Wing, Nellis Air Force Base, Nev. The squadron will provide advanced tactical instruction for B-2 pilots with a mission of improving the effectiveness of America’s current and future warfighters.

Lt. Col. Glen VanHerck, once a 325th BS “Caveman” and currently

See **REBIRTH**, Page 10

Lt. Col. Thomas Bussiere, the new commander of the 13th Bomb Squadron, places the 13th BS patch on his shoulder Sept. 23. The unit was relocated from Dyess Air Force Base, Texas, to Whiteman.



Photos by Airman 1st Class Ryan Wilson

A member of the Whiteman honor guard encases the 715th Weapons Squadron guidon as Col. C.Q. Brown (left), Air Force Weapons School commandant, and Lt. Col. Glen VanHerck (right), former 715th WPS commander look on. Colonel VanHerck is now the 325th Weapons Squadron commander.

Inside

Well done:
Wing reaches flying goals.

■ Page 3



Chief’s Counsel:
‘Take pride in our work.’

■ Page 8



COMMENTARY:
Munchkin from ‘The Wizard of Oz’ visits base.

■ Page 15



Falling short ...
Falcons late comeback against Utah ends with one-point loss.

■ Page 20





Editorial Staff

Brig. Gen. Chris Miller-----509th Bomb Wing Commander
Capt. Joe DellaVedova-----Chief, Public Affairs
2nd Lt. Candace Cutrufo-----OIC, Internal Information
Staff Sgt. Neo Martin-----NCOIC Internal Information
Senior Airman Joe Lacdan-----Editor
Airman 1st Class Jason Burton-----Staff writer

The *Spirit Times* is published by *The Sedalia Democrat*, a private firm in no way connected with the U.S. Air Force, under exclusive contract with Whiteman Air Force Base.

This civilian enterprise newspaper is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. military services. Contents of the *Spirit Times* are not necessarily the official view of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, the Department of Defense, or the Department of the Air Force.

The appearance of advertising in this publication, including inserts or supplements, does not constitute endorsement by the DoD, the Department of the Air Force, or *The Sedalia Democrat* of the products or services advertised.

Everything advertised in this publication shall be made available for purchase, use or patronage without regard to race, color, age, religion, national origin, political affiliation, marital status, sex, physical handicap, or any other nonmerit factor of the purchaser, user, or patron. Editorial content is edited, prepared and provided by the Office of Public Affairs of the 509th Bomb Wing, Whiteman AFB, Mo. All photos in the *Spirit Times* are official U.S. Air Force photos, unless otherwise noted. The Services Page is a supplement to the *Spirit Times* and is provided by the 509th Services Squadron.

The deadline for article submissions to the *Spirit Times* is noon Friday. If a holiday falls on Friday, the deadline then becomes 4 p.m. Thursday. Articles will be published on a space-available basis. Submission does not guarantee publication.

For more information, call the *Spirit Times* office at 687-6133, e-mail: spirit.times@whiteman.af.mil, fax us at 687-7948, or write to us at:
509th BW/PA, 509 Spirit Blvd. Ste. 111
Whiteman AFB, Mo. 6530

Air Force Quiz

What does the Bronze Star device represent?
(See answer below)

9er Line

Dial 687-3119 or e-mail
9r.Line@whiteman.af.mil

Whiteman's 9er Line provides a communication channel for you to obtain information and assistance in making Whiteman a better place to live and work.

Before calling the 9er Line, try to resolve your problem with the responsible base agency.

If you've exhausted all the normal avenues to resolve the situation, then call Brig. Gen. Chris Miller, 509th Bomb Wing commander, at 687-3119 or e-mail 9r.Line@whiteman.af.mil.

Need a Wingman?

Confidential crisis counseling available 24/7

Call the Whiteman Help Hotline:
866-395-4357

The bronze star device represents participation in campaigns or operations, or an additional award to any of the various ribbons which it is authorized.

Air Force quiz answer

COMMENTARY

Congratulations on a job well-done

Commander's Corner

By Brig. Gen. Chris Miller
509th Bomb Wing Commander

Few things in the world feel better than setting a goal and reaching it. There's a great sense of accomplishment when you say you're going to do something, then follow up by doing it. That's why I am extremely proud of this wing for successfully completing its flying hour program for fiscal year 2005.

This was not a simple task. Twelve months ago we set a goal for ourselves. Then, during the spring, the Air Force announced it was reducing the flying hour program to help cover expenses incurred from fighting the war on terrorism. Those financial cuts represented a 60 percent reduction in the remaining planned flight hours for the year. We responded appropriately and scaled back our training sorties. In July, the money for our flying program was restored and we set a forward-leaning flying schedule to catch back up to our original goal.

On Monday night, Col. Rob Wheeler, 509th Operations Group commander, and 1st Lt Jason Ellis, 393rd Bomb Squadron, flew the final FY-05 sortie that zeroed out our goal of 6,072.9 hours (actually we flew 0.3 hours above it for a total of 6,073.2 hours).

The achievement was an entire team



Photo by Staff Sgt. Neo Martin

Staff Sgt. Brian Perez, 509th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, is greeted by Brig. Gen. Chris Miller, 509th Bomb Wing commander, Col. Bob Wheeler, 509th Operations Group commander, and Col. Robert DuLong, 509th Maintenance Group commander on the flightline Monday night.

effort. The B-2 is an incredible bomber, but it doesn't get off the ground without your help. I salute our maintainers for keeping our aircraft flying; our mission support group folks for providing the communication, logistics, security, contracting, services and engineering support; our medical professionals for keeping us in good health and the operators for flying safely and maximizing training.

When you reach a goal it's important to take time to enjoy the satisfaction of having achieved it. That's why I'm

declaring next Friday (Oct. 7) as a wing day. This will be a time for us to catch our breath and spend quality time with family and friends.

In the meantime, tomorrow marks the beginning of a new fiscal year and we have set a new flying goal that will increase our flying hour program by about 900 hours. It will take teamwork, determination and hard work, but I have no doubt we can reach that goal as well.

Thanks again for all that you do and congratulations on a job well-done.

Are you deployment

By Maj. Dani Johnson

4th Air Expeditionary Group Public Affairs

NEW ORLEANS (AFP) —

I thought I was ready to deploy but I didn't realize how unprepared I really was until I received orders to move within 24 hours. I had to ask myself the question: How prepared am I to face unexpected contingencies or disasters?

I received the notice the morning of Sept. 3 to deploy the next day to Maxwell Air Force Base, Ala., for Joint Task Force-Katrina. My mind scrambled as I thought about what I needed: orders, plane tickets, gear. My staff had to be recalled so I could go over the next month's events since I didn't know how long I would be gone. Professionally I was ready and prepared.

Personally, I wasn't quite as ready. As I did five loads of laundry, my mind went over what I would need. I had the recommended packing list but that had primarily only professional gear listed. I thought I had everything until I got here, unrolled my sleeping bag and realized I didn't bring a pillow. Living in bare base conditions, there were small things I could have brought to enhance my quality of life. But because I wasn't prepared, I forgot them.

While I was packing and calling my parents, I had to find someone to watch my cats. Military families with children have to have a short-term care program. Those of us with pets aren't required to have one. I realized that I needed to have a plan for these exact times. Thank goodness for the kindness of neighbors.

After I redeploy, you can bet that I will

have a personal short-notice deployment kit at home with a to-do list with what needs to be done before I depart.

Shortly after I arrived, I escorted national media on a helicopter flight over the city. As I looked down at the water surrounding houses, I asked myself: Would I be ready to evacuate my home if I needed to? What would I take with me?

Many of us don't want to deal with the reality that a disaster could happen to us. Unfortunately it has been proven time and time again that something will happen. Once I'm home, I also will create a list of what I would take with me if I had to evacuate my home.

The other part of being prepared is ensuring you can replace your belongings if needed. I'm not advocating one insurance company over the other but it's important, whether you are renting or owning, that you have insurance to cover any losses.

Along with having insurance is having the right insurance. According to a news report, many residents here admitted to complacency with hurricane warnings and evacuations. A Post-Kaiser-Harvard poll stated seven people out of 10 had no insurance (renters or homeowners) to cover losses. Only 40 percent of homeowners had flood insurance. Now that might be surprising to many but if you aren't prepared and have become complacent, you don't always do what really needs to be done. It's the "won't happen to me" syndrome.

As my deployment here winds down, I realize while I was ready to help, I wasn't as prepared as I thought I was. I can guarantee you I will be next time. Will you?



Photo by Staff Sgt. Cherie Thurlby

OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM — Master Sgt. Troy Lawson (bottom) and Airman 1st Class Casey Darst, KC-135 boom operators, load bags onto the aircraft prior to flying a mission in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom on March 25. The KC-135 crew is deployed from the 22nd Air Refueling Wing, McConnell Air Force Base, Kan.

A-10 drops practice munition south of base

By Maj. David Kurle

442nd Fighter Wing Public Affairs

Team Whiteman members from the 509th Bomb Wing and the 442nd Fighter Wing worked together to locate a practice munition, which fell from an A-10 Thunderbolt II Monday afternoon in a field approximately six miles south of Whiteman.

A small training munition fell from a 442nd FW A-10 at approximately 4:30 p.m. while the aircraft was returning from a training mission to the Cannon Range at Fort Leonard Wood. While at the range, a 20-pound BDU-33 training aid, designed to

emit smoke upon impact to gauge bombing accuracy, failed to release from the aircraft.

Following standard procedures, the pilot flew the A-10 back to Whiteman over unpopulated areas and commenced a special approach for aircraft carrying hung ordnance.

Firefighters and explosive ordnance disposal personnel from Whiteman responded to the scene Monday afternoon but could not locate the device, which was located Tuesday morning by pilots from the 303rd Fighter Squadron here. There were no injuries or property damage and 442nd Fighter Wing personnel are working to determine the cause of the malfunction.

Flying goals met



Photo by Staff Sgt. Neo Martin

Cols. Bob DuLong, 509th Maintenance Group commander, (center), and Robert Wheeler, 509th Operations Group commander (second, from right), congratulate B-2 crew chiefs and maintainers underneath the wing of the Spirit of Texas after meeting the annual flying hour goals. "We are proud maintainers," Colonel DuLong said, "when we can look back and see the huge accomplishments of this fiscal year." Colonel Wheeler added, "They worked around and through many problems and balanced aircraft fleet health with aircrew training."

Air Force launches GPS satellite

CAPE CANAVERAL AIR FORCE STATION, Fla. (AFPN) — The Air Force's 45th Space Wing, its mission partners and Boeing successfully launched a Global Positioning System satellite into orbit on a Delta II space launch vehicle at 11:37 p.m. Sunday.

The GPS constellation provides continuous, precise three-dimensional location information — including latitude, longitude and altitude — velocity and exact time to worldwide users. The satellite launched should be fully checked-out and operational in about four weeks.

"This next generation GPS satellite joins a constellation that continues to play an enormous role on the Global War on Terror, ensuring U.S. warfighters and our allies have the technology and advantage in an unconventional war," said Col. Mark Owen, 45th Space Wing commander.

Predator reaches milestone

CREECH AIR FORCE BASE, Nev.—The latest upgrade to the MQ-1 Predator, known as the Multi-Aircraft Control system, entered operational testing with the first ever two-ship and four-ship Predator sorties flown from Creech Air Force Base.

During these sorties, members from the 53rd Test and Evaluation Group, Detachment 4, tested the MAC Ground Control Station on its ability to enable a single pilot to simultaneously control four Predator aircraft over the skies of southern Nevada.

Testers performed two-ship sorties Sept. 12 and 13 and progressed to four-ship sorties Sept. 14 and 15.

"Our pilots were impressed with the technology integration, human-machine interface and situational awareness provided by the MAC GCS," said Lt. Col. Steven Tanner, 53rd TEG Det. 4 commander. "We spent six months developing comprehensive training and safety plans to ensure that these initial MAC four-ship test sorties were successful. Once we fully train our pilots and sensor operators on this new technology, we will initiate the process of evaluating the operational capabilities of the MAC system."

The MAC system has the potential to bring long-endurance, concentrated Predator firepower to a dynamic battlefield scenario, Colonel Tanner said.

The MAC system is designed to allow one pilot to actively engage a target, while three other Predators are flying nearby on standby status.

While one pilot controls all four Predators, sensor operators assigned to each Predator are able to collect data using the



Photo by Master Sgt. Rob Valencia

An MQ-1 Predator takes off from here during the first operational test of the latest upgrade to the Predator. The upgrade, known as the Multi-Aircraft Control system enables an operator to fly two-ship and four-ship Predator sorties. Testers performed two-ship sorties Sept. 12 and 13 and progressed to four-ship sorties Sept. 14 and 15.

sensor ball, located on the front of the aircraft, Colonel Tanner explained.

Members of the 53rd Wing and 57th Wing will conduct operational test missions with the MAC system during the next few months in order to evaluate the new two- and four-ship Predator mission capabilities.

"MAC represents a quantum leap in Unmanned Aerial Vehicle technology and has the potential to dramatically increase Predator availability and lethality," said Col. William Coutts, 53rd Wing commander. "The combined 53rd and 57th team is doing an excellent job, and I am optimistic that MAC technology will translate into increased combat capability for combatant commanders."

News briefs

BGC luncheon set

The next base community council luncheon begins at noon Oct. 6 at Mission's End. Cole Camp, Mo. and Warsaw, Mo., are the featured communities. The menu is roast beef, glazed potatoes and vegetable medley. The cost is \$8.50. Those interested in attending must R.S.V.P. by noon Monday, Oct. 3. Sorry, no late R.S.V.P.s will be accepted. To R.S.V.P. or for more details, call Melissa Klinkner at 687-6122.

CFC kicks off with run

A 5K Run begins at 3:30 p.m. Oct 12 at Skelton Park to kick-off the annual Combined Federal Campaign. For a \$15 pre-registration fee, runners will receive a T-shirt and a chance to win various door prizes. Register at the fitness center by Wednesday. All proceeds will be given to the CFC undesignated funds. Call Capt. Melissa Bailey at 687-6446 or 2nd Lt. Craig Towlson at 687-3061 for more details.

ECHO provides special assistance

Extended Health Care Option is a new program that will provide financial assistance to eligible active-duty family members who have qualifying mental or physical disabilities. ECHO offers services and supplies beyond the basic TRICARE benefits covered in prime. For ECHO benefits the family member must be enrolled in the Exceptional Family Member Program. Cost shares for the program is based on your pay grade and after the cost share is paid TRICARE will pay up to \$2,500 per service.

For more information about ECHO benefits, eligibility requirements, just stop in at the TRICARE service center located in the base clinic. You can also call 1-800-874-9378, or visit www.tricare.osd.mil/echo.

Mandatory SARC training set

Airmen must a mandatory Sexual Assault Response Coordinator class at the base chapel by Nov. 1. The Air Force has developed the SARC program to help victims of sexual assault. Currently, the training is optional for civilians. The classes are broken down into male and female classes. Airmen should coordinate with their supervisors on a class date. Supervisors and flight chiefs must send their first sergeants one list of names, date and time each member in your section is scheduled to attend SARC training. For more details, call your first sergeant.

Class dates (all classes are at chapel):

- Oct. 11, 1 p.m.-2:30 p.m. for males
- Oct. 11, 2:30 p.m. – 4 p.m. for females
- Oct. 13 1 p.m.-2:30 p.m. for males
- Oct. 13 2:30 p.m. – 4 p.m. for females

Around the Air Force

PT uniform guidance released

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas — The Air Force has issued guidance for the wear of headphones while in the official physical training uniform.

Airmen dressed in the PT uniform are authorized to wear headphones while participating in personal fitness and other off-duty activities. However, they will not wear headphones while in formation, or during organized unit physical training sessions or in performance of official duties.

Commanders may further deny headphone wear if conditions are determined to be unsafe. They may also disallow headphone use. Air Force component commanders will coordinate wear policy with the combatant commander to ensure uniformity for Airmen deployed to joint environments.

Keep an eye out for domestic violence

Domestic violence is defined as any hurtful or unwanted physical, sexual, verbal or emotional act inflicted by an intimate partner.

Each year, the president targets October as "Domestic Violence Awareness Month." Domestic violence is a serious crime, which can result in injury and even death.

The U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics informs us in the United States, battering is the major cause of injury to women age 14-45, causing more injuries than

automobile accidents, muggings and rapes combined. They also state that 25 percent of pregnant women seeking prenatal care have been battered during pregnancy. The Federal Bureau of Investigation reports that of all female victims of homicide in America, 30 percent are killed by husbands or boyfriends. Experts point out these figures only represent reported cases and actual numbers are likely much higher.

It's estimated that about 800,000 men are physically abused. In 2000,

according to the Bureau of Justice Statistics Web page, 1,247 women and 440 men were killed by their intimate partners.

Children who witness domestic violence are more likely to exhibit behavioral and physical health problems including depression, anxiety and violence. They are more likely to attempt suicide, abuse drugs and alcohol, engage in teenage prostitution and commit sexual assault.

As outlined in Air Force Instruction 40-301, all military members

and civilian employees are required to report any known or suspected incidents of domestic violence, and child abuse to the Family Advocacy Office, 687-4342. To report after duty hours or in case of emergency call security forces, 687-3700.

For further information or assistance, contact your Whiteman Family Advocacy Program at 687-4342, or come visit the information booth from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturday at the commissary. (*Courtesy of 509th Medical Support Squadron.*)

Fast Facts

Local shelters and safe homes available for women and children in abusive relationships.

■ Warrensburg Survival House, 660-429-2847.

■ Citizens Against Spouse Abuse located in Sedalia, 1-800-894-1151.



Photos by Timothy Allen



Skaters compete

Above: Dustin Wright uses his impressive equilibrium skills to work some tricks in the half pipe Saturday during the X-Treme Wheels Competition at the base skate park. Seven people participated in the event. Inset: Paris Everson rides the rail for a second place ranking in the 16 year and over class. This is the third year the base has held this event. The competitors were placed in three groups based on age and each performed a pair of two-minute skate programs. The winners received ribbons and new skateboard decks and shirts courtesy of a local skate shop.

COURT REPORT

In August, eight Whiteman military members received punishment under Article 15, Uniform Code of Military Justice.

Article 15

An airman first class from the 509th Civil Engineer Squadron received an Article 15 for driving while intoxicated, showing up drunk for duty, and failing to go. Punishment was a reduction to airman basic, restriction to base for 30 days and 30 days extra duty.

A senior airman from the 509th Communications Squadron received an Article 15 for sleeping while on duty. Punishment was a suspended reduction to airman first class, 18 days extra duty and a reprimand.

A senior airman from the 509th Logistics Readiness Squadron received an Article 15 for failing to go. Punishment was reduction to Airman with reduction below airman first class suspended and 14 days extra duty.

An airman first class from the 509th LRS received an Article 15 for underage drinking. Punishment was a reduction to airman basic with reduction below airman suspended, forfeiture of \$100 and 21 days extra duty.

An airman first class from the 509th LRS received an Article 15 for failing to obey a lawful order and failing to go. Punishment was a reduction to airman basic and restriction to base for 60 days.

An airman first class from the 509th LRS received an Article 15 for failing to pay a debt. Punishment was a

reduction to airman basic with reduction below airman suspended, restriction to base for 30 days and 14 days extra duty.

A senior airman from the 509th Medical Support Squadron received an Article 15 for destroying non-military property over a value of \$500. Punishment was a suspended reduction to airman first class and suspended forfeiture of \$820 pay per month for two months, contingent upon full restitution to the victim.

An airman first class from the 509th Security Forces Squadron received an Article 15 for wrongful use of marijuana. Punishment was a reduction to airman basic, suspended forfeiture of \$617 pay per month for two months, 30 days extra duty and a reprimand.

A-10 highlighted at Cannon Range open house

Story and photos by
Staff Sgt. Angela Blazier
442nd Fighter Wing Public Affairs

CANNON RANGE, Mo. —

In the rolling green hills of south central Missouri is a field riddled with shrapnel, bullet-riddled trucks and derelict aircraft. It's a ghost town of sorts filled with dilapidated buildings and curvy dirt roads.

What could be described as an abandoned battlefield is really Cannon Range, which provides 442nd Fighter Wing pilots the opportunity to hone their battle skills. Operated and maintained by the 131st Fighter Wing, Detachment 1 of the Missouri Air National Guard, the range is located near Rolla.

The 442nd's A-10 Thunderbolt II aircraft fire, on average, more than 140,000 rounds from their 30 millimeter Gatling gun and drop about 5,000 BDU-33 smoke bombs per year at the range, said Lt. Col. Scott Porter, detachment commander.

"We give them an opportunity to train like they fight," Colonel Porter said.

The 11 Air National Guard personnel assigned to the detachment are responsible for 4,800 acres, 21 miles of roads and coordinating more than 2,000 flight sorties a year.

Tech. Sgt. Ray Shattuck, heavy equipment operator, thinks the detachment is successful due to teamwork.

"The efficiency of our work is due to the camaraderie ... and our ability to adapt to new role," he said. "We can read each other and know the other's ability."

"Every person here loves this job," Colonel Porter said. "Every single person realizes the importance of what we do."

With 250 distinct objects for the pilots to aim at, the range offers more than just static targets. It's a certified laser range, which means lasers can be used to identify targets. The range also offers radar threat emitters, which simulate ground-based threats to aircraft. Lastly, it's equipped with mock surface to air missiles that ground crews fire at the aircraft as they fly past.

"This provides them with realistic threat training and an adversary to train against," Colonel Porter said. "It provides a sensory stimulus."



Four A-10s fly in formation over the Cannon Range.

On Sept. 10, about 2,000 people descended onto the range to see the A-10 and other aircraft in action during an open house. Tailgates came down and lawn chairs were opened as the crowd settled down to watch the show. Hundreds

strolled the area around the tower and stopped for a bite to eat at the United Service Organizations' trailer.

"Clear hot one," said a voice over the intercom. Within 30 seconds, a loud series of pops were heard as an A-10 screamed overhead. A cloud of dust developed around a large hanging, circular target. A collective astonishment came over the crowd.

Spectator Wilda Vaughan, Springfield, Mo., was impressed by the display.

"It was awesome ... better than awesome," she said. "They love to show off, you can tell."

The atmosphere was a bit tenser in the control tower. The two controllers must ensure the range is clear of people and vehicles. They must also coordinate the flight path of aircraft over the range. With the tower in constant contact with the aircraft, the radio waves were filled with a contin-



In the control tower, Master Sgt. Gary Ervin, 131st Fighter Wing, Detachment 1, watches over range activities while Lt. Col. Scott Porter, 131st Fighter Wing, Detachment 1 commander, communicates with the ground crew.

See **RANGE**, Page 10

Message to 509ers: Take pride in what you do



(EDITOR'S NOTE) —
The Chief's Counsel gives Whiteman chief master sergeants a chance to share their thoughts about the Air Force, uniform wear, customs and courtesies and proper decorum with other Airmen. Each edition will feature a different first sergeant who will share their view.)

By Chief Master Sgt. David Isaacson

442nd Fighter Wing

Command Chief Master Sergeant

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the people who devoted time and energy make the Air Force Ball a resounding success. Kudos to you!

Traditions such as the ball, along with dining-ins, dining-outs, graduation ceremonies, and various other gatherings are an essential part of professional military life. Our participation is an important element in promoting patriotism and pride within the military environment.

On this particular evening, Sept. 17, exactly 58 years from the creation of the Air Force as a separate and distinct branch of our armed forces, hundreds of men and women of Team Whiteman were assembled in the 5-Bay hangar. As the National Anthem played I looked out across the sea of Airmen in formal attire, standing at attention, an A-10 in the background, and the moment seized me; that inexplicable moment when a person is proud to be

American.

On Sept. 18, 1947, W. Stuart Symington was sworn in as the first secretary of the Air Force. Shortly after taking office, Symington said: "In this day when a powerful counterattack is America's only real answer to aggression, there can be no question that we need the world's first Air Force."

Not only were we the world's first Air Force, but we have become the greatest Air Force in the world. Without the decisive and timely employment of air power, the counterattack on terrorist aggression would not even be possible. Team Whiteman, you can be extremely proud of your contribution to defending our nation and to furthering the cause of freedom.

The word pride has many meanings. One definition is the valuing of excellent performance. Another definition is the trait of being spurred on by a dislike of falling below established standards.

One of our core values is, "Excellence in all we do," and pride is clearly a characteristic that serves as the backbone of excellent performance.

All Airmen need to understand what is important about their profession and why it matters for them to excel at the little things as well as the big ones. Leaders must instill a vision that touches people's emotions and creates a clear image of the goals being pursued.

The signers of our Declaration of Inde-

pendence vowed. "For the support of this declaration, with a firm reliance on the protection of the Divine Providence, we mutually pledge to each other, our lives, our fortunes, and our sacred honor." They were willing to give all they possessed and they did.

The names and deeds of historical characters such as George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, Patrick Henry, and Benjamin Franklin, and many others like them, are entrenched so deeply within the psyche of our society that we all automatically know who they were and what they did to help shape our nation into the greatest country in the world. However, what is fascinating

is those American heroes did not know their lives would be spoken of more than two centuries later.

Their actions were based on a commitment to a greater cause — they did not desire to be heroes, they merely wanted to change the condition in which they lived. They simply were reacting to circumstances they believed to be unjust. They had a desire to be free, pride in themselves, and a vision of where they were going. They would not settle for anything less.

You, the members of Team Whiteman, are the heroes of today.

You have committed yourselves to a greater cause. As with our founding fathers, only a few of your names

will go down in history. However, just as at that time, there were thousands and thousands of unnamed heroes whose sacrifices were just as significant, so it is at this time.

John Stewart Mill, a 19th century English philosopher said, "War is an ugly thing, but not the ugliest of things. The decayed and degraded state of moral and patriotic feeling, which thinks that nothing is worth war, is much worse.

The person who has nothing for which he is willing to fight, nothing which is more important than his own personal safety, is a miserable creature and has no chance of being free unless made and kept so by the exertions of better men than himself."

The men and women of both the 509th Bomb Wing and the 442nd Fighter Wing have answered the call. They are those "better" people, willing to give of themselves, striving to provide a better world for subsequent generations.

You can be proud. Of all the things in life one may do, there exists no feeling equal to that which comes from making sacrifices for others. You are following a long line of heroes, continuing to carry that lamp of liberty to the oppressed nations of the world.

The time you spend serving this great nation, whether it be a short time or a lifetime, is an honorable cause. You should walk a little taller, knowing you have done a noble deed — you are true patriots. The next time you hear our National Anthem, I hope you will be seized by the moment. Thank you for your dedication, your hard work, and for giving me the opportunity to serve with you.

"Pride is clearly a characteristic that serves as the backbone of excellent performance."

Whiteman Spirit Award



Senior Airman Anthony Muller

509th Communications Squadron

Senior Airman Anthony Muller, 509th Communications Squadron, received the Whiteman Spirit Award Tuesday from Brig. Gen. Chris Miller, 509th Bomb Wing commander.

Staff Sgt. Steven Allen, 509th Security Forces Squadron nominated Airman Muller for the award.

During a training class at the combat arms training building, Airman Muller, who was in attending the class, noticed the public announcement system on the firing line was malfunctioning.

Airman Muller came back early from his lunchbreak with tools and eventually fixed the PA system.

"He saw a problem that he could fix and fixed it without being asked to do so," Sergeant Allen said. "he is truly a great Airman with a great attitude and a winning spirit."

Time on station: 2 years, 8 months

Time in service: 3 years, 6 months

Hometown: Moreno, Valley, Calif.

Spouse: Michelle

Children: Kelci, 4; Cori, 2; Danasha, 5

Hobbies: Hanging out with my family, squadron activities, theater and technology.

Goals: To crosstrain, get a master's degree, get commissioned, retire and travel the world.

Best thing about Whiteman: The dedication by all of Team Whiteman to get the job done right the first time and without regard to personal cost.

Pet Peeves: Inefficiency and laziness. Oh, and people who refer to their dog as a canine.

What motivates your winning spirit? "...Don't use your freedom as an excuse to do whatever you want. Use it as an opportunity to serve each other with Love." *Galatians 4:13*

If you could change one thing about Whiteman, what would it be? Kick out the spirit of laziness that resides in some people and for goodness sake get an indoor pool.

SOLDIERS, from Page 1

"We have to focus on safety — not only for ourselves, but for the people that we're going to help out," Captain Moenster said. "We need to provide them the security and safety that they need so they can repopulate their city."

Many of the Soldiers did not know they would be deploying until 7 p.m. Saturday. Sgt. 1st Class Robert Kjos was visiting his parents in Bellavista, Ark. Saturday when he was told to return to Whiteman Sunday morning.

"The tempo's fast right now," Sergeant Kjos said with a ruck sack and M-16 rifle around his shoulders. "Everyone's on edge a little bit."

"It was in the back of everyone's mind," Captain Moenster said. "We kind of knew eventually that the Missouri National Guard was going to get its turn to send a large task force."

The mass deployment follows four aircraft refueling troops who deployed to the Gulf Coast region earlier this month.

"They're going to be helping their fellow Americans in a time of great need," Captain Moenster said. "(The Soldiers) might not get a lot of medals, they might not see combat but it's going to see this unit come together as a team." The last natural disaster response deployment by the unit was in 1993 when rising water in the Mississippi and Missouri Rivers flooded areas throughout Missouri.

Hispanic Americans: Strong threads in American fabric

Hispanic American Heritage Month runs from Sept. 15 through Oct. 15. During this time our nation celebrates the contributions and achievements of the Hispanic culture. In the up coming weeks Whiteman will offer a variety of social and learning activities which you can take part in.

This weeks look into Hispanic American heritage is a "Q and A" with 2nd Lt. Diego Plancarte, 509th Logistics Readiness Squadron, a University of Northern Arizona graduate, and a family origin from Michoacan, Mexico.

Q: What made you choose the Air Force?

A: I admire the high standards that the Air Force and military put on their members. I also take great pride in serving my country.

Q: What connection do you have with your heritage?

A: I did not have much of a connection to my heritage until recently. Although my family originated in Mexico, I was born and raised in Arizona. This past year I had the opportunity to travel to Mexico and spend nearly a month there with family and friends. The trip really gave me the chance to get connected with the Hispanic culture which is much different from the American culture which I was raised in.

Q: Why did you choose to get involved with the Hispanic Heritage Committee?

A: I wanted to share my experiences with the Whiteman community while at the same time learn about other Hispanic countries other than my own.

Q: What advice can you give to Whiteman members regarding Hispanic American Heritage Month?

A: Learning and accepting each others differences will only enrich our lives. The Hispanic American Heritage Committee gives me the opportunity to have some fun while at the same time teaching the Whiteman community about a culture they may otherwise be unfamiliar with.

Q: What are your plans for the future?

A: For right now I plan to continue enjoying the work I do in the Air Force. Being in the Air Force and being stationed here at Whiteman gives me the chance to work with a diverse community.— *Capt. Christopher Klaiber, 509th Bomb Wing Military Equal Opportunity office.*

Fast Facts

■ Hispanic Heritage Month starts Sept. 15, the anniversary of independence for five Latin American countries—Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua. In addition, Mexico declared its independence on Sept. 16, and Chile on Sept. 18.

■ The term Hispanic, as defined by the U.S. Census Bureau, refers to Spanish-speaking people in the United States of any race. In the 2000 Census, more than 35 million people identified themselves as Hispanic or Latino.

■ In 2050, it is projected that Hispanics will constitute 24 percent of the nation's total population.

■ The nation's Hispanic population has doubled since the 1990 census.

■ California is home to 12.4 million Hispanics. Texas is home to 7.8 million.

■ Thirteen states have at least half a million Hispanic residents.

■ New Mexico has the largest Hispanic population by percent of total population with 43 percent. Hispanics make up 35 percent of the population in California and Texas.

■ In 2003, about 53,000 people of Hispanic origin people were on active duty in the armed forces.



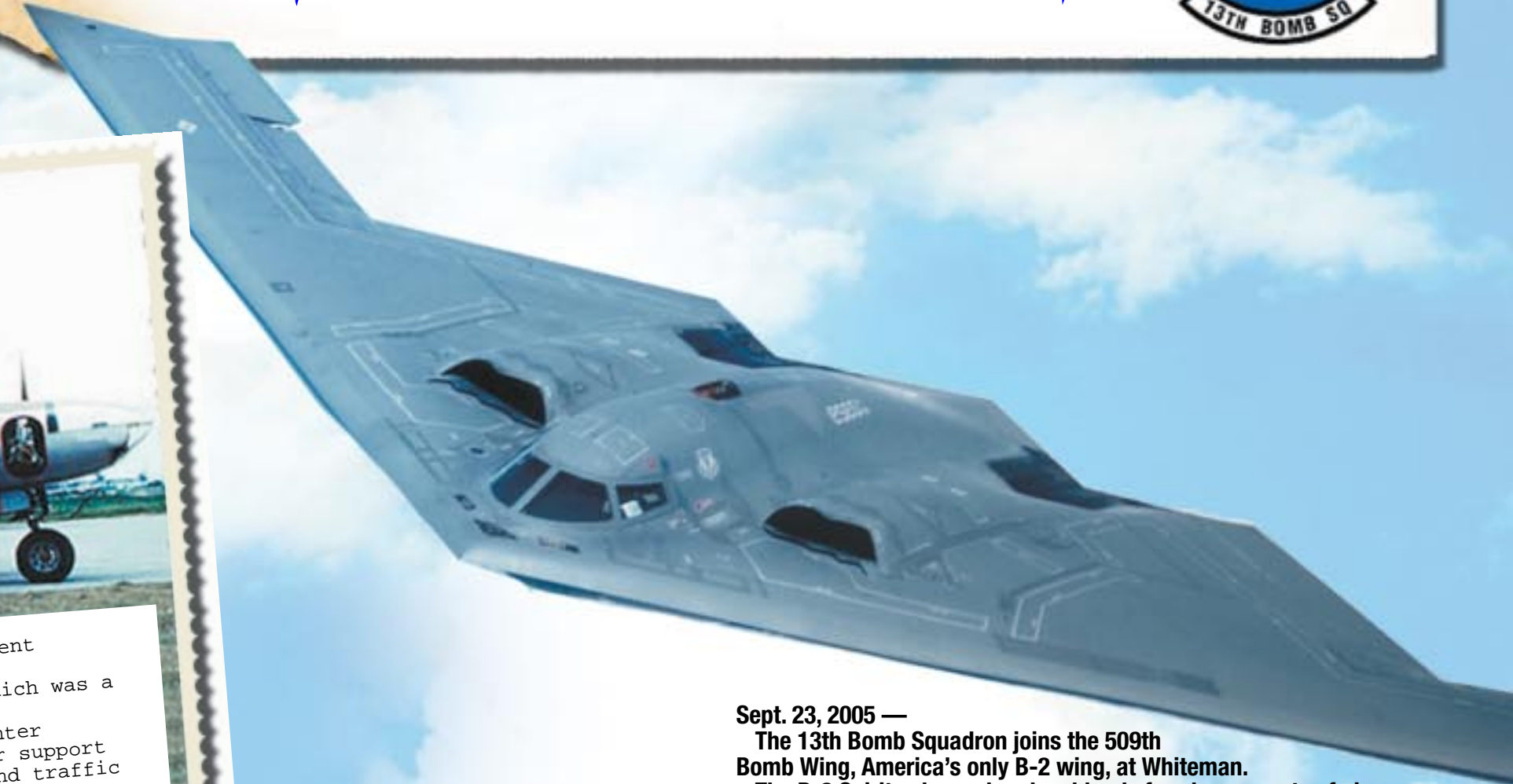
13th Bomb Squadron: History in the making



March 1918 — The 13th acquired the SPAD 13 pursuit planes from the French. The SPAD had a gross weight of 1,863 pounds., 26'6" span and a length of 20' 8", and was powered by a Hispano 8 cylinder engine of 235 horse power - and of questionable reliability. The SPAD had two Vickers 7.7 millimeter machine guns firing through the propeller and could climb to almost 22,000 feet. The 13th had the fastest airplane on the Allied side of World War I. at 139 miles per hour.



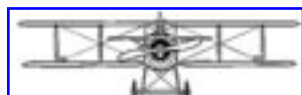
1945-1956 — The principal mission of the 13th Bombardment Squadron was light, night intruder tactics. The B-26 was a light bomber, as opposed to the B-29 which was a heavy bomber. The heavy bombers took out strategic targets, the fighter bombers (F-80s/F-84s and Marine aircraft), did close air support during the day, along with rail cuts, bridge bombings and traffic interdiction, and the B-26s worked to halt the flow of supplies and troops to the front lines during the night. The targets for the B-26s were the three "T"s - trains, trucks and tracks. The targets included the bridges that the trains and trucks used.



Sept. 23, 2005 —

The 13th Bomb Squadron joins the 509th Bomb Wing, America's only B-2 wing, at Whiteman. The B-2 Spirit, a heavy bomber, blends four key aspects of air power: stealth, long range, large-lethal payload and precision munitions.

13th Aero Squadron



1918 SPAD 13

13th Bombardment Squadron Light

1936-1939 A-17
1939-1941 B-12, B-18
1941 A-20
1944-1945 A-20



1942-45 B-25

13th Bombardment Squadron Light Night Intruder



1945-1956 A-26/B-26

13th Bombardment Squadron Tactical



1956-1972 B-57

13th Bomb Squadron



2000 - 2005 B-1B



2005- present B-2



1918 Salmson 2

13th Squadron

1921-1922 DH-4
1921-1922 XB-1A



1922-1932 GAX (GA-1)

13th Attack Squadron

1922-1923 DH-4
1929-1934 A-3
1934-1936 A-12



1936 A-17

13 Bomb Squadron: campaign streamers, honors and lineage

WORLD WAR I

St. Mihiel
Meuse-Argonne
Lorraine

WORLD WAR II - American theater

Antisubmarine- U.S. offshore

WORLD WAR II - Asiatic-Pacific

Philippine Islands
East Indies
Papua
Bismark Archipelago
New Guinea
Leyte
Luzon
Southern Philippines
Western Pacific
Air Offensive - Japan

KOREAN WAR

United Nations Defensive and Offensive
Communist China Forces Interdiction
First U.N. Counteroffensive
CCF Spring Offensive
U.N. Summer-Fall Offensive
Second Korean Winter
Korea Summer-Fall 1952
Third Korean Winter
Korea Summer-Fall 1953

Decorations

Distinguished Presidential Unit Citations

Philippine Islands: April 12-14, 1942
Philippine Islands: April 11-14, 1942
Papua: July 23, 1942 - Jan. 23, 1943
New Guinea: Aug. 17, 1943
Korea: June 27 - July 31, 1950
Korea: April 22 - July 8, 1951
Korea: May 1 - June 27, 1953
Southeast Asia: Oct. 10, 1966 - April 10, 1967
Southeast Asia: Mar. 10, 1967 - May 1, 1967
Southeast Asia: June 6, 1967 - Jan. 18, 1968
Southeast Asia: Jan. 1 - April 1, 1971

Outstanding Unit Awards- with combat "V":

Feb. 19, 1965 - Feb. 19, 1966
July 1, 1966 - June 30, 1967
July 1, 1967 - June 30, 1968
Sept. 16, 1970 - Dec. 31, 1970
Oct. 1, 1971 - Mar. 31, 1972

Outstanding Unit Awards

June 1, 1958 - June 30, 1960
July 1, 1960 - Mar. 31, 1962
Aug. 5, 1964 - Mar. 31, 1965
Aug. 8, 1965 - Mar. 31, 1966
Feb. 8, 1969 - Dec. 31, 1969

Foreign decorations

Philippine Presidential Unit Citation
Republic of Korea Presidential Unit Citation:
June 27, - July 31, 1950
Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross with Palm:
July 1, 1970- Dec. 24, 1972

13th name history

- Organized as 13th Aero Squadron on June 14, 1917.
- Demobilized on March 29, 1919.
- Reconstituted Oct. 16 1936 with 104th Aero Squadron which was organized on Aug. 25, 1917,
- Redesignated 13th Squadron on March 14, 1921,
- Redesignated 13th Attack Squadron on Jan. 25, 1923,
- Inactivated on Jun. 27, 1924,
- Activated on Nov. 1, 1929.
- Redesignated: 13th Bombardment Squadron Light on Sept. 15, 1939: 13th Bombardment Squadron Dive on Sept. 28, 1942; 13th Bombardment Squadron Light on May 25, 1943; 13th Bombardment Squadron Light Night Intruder on June 25, 1951; 13th Bombardment Squadron Tactical on Oct. 1, 1955.
- Discontinued and inactivated, on Jan. 15, 1968.
- Activated on Feb. 8, 1969.
- Redesignated 13th Fighter Squadron on July 1, 1973.
- Inactivated on Sept. 30, 1973.
- Redesignated 13th Bombardment Squadron Tactical on Sept. 30, 1973.
- Redesignated 13th Bomb Squadron on May 1, 2000.
- Transferred from Dyess Air Force Base, Texas, to Whiteman.

Information courtesy of www.13thbombsquadron.org
Graphics and layout by Staff Sgt. Neo Martin

Munchkin brings gigantic message

COMMENTARY

By Senior Airman Joe Lacdan

Public Affairs

My marathon of a work-day crashed to a halt. "A what is coming here?" I asked as I turned from my desk on a late August morning.

"A munchkin is coming here," said 2nd Lt. Candace Cutrufo, our chief of internal information.

A munchkin she says. R-I-G-H-T, I thought.

Now in public affairs we get a lot of odd phone calls. We hear about everything from UFOs flying over farmers' homes to elderly women complaining that B-2 flights are killing their turkeys.

But a *munchkin*? What's a munchkin? And why would a munchkin want to come here?

My curiosity peaked.

"LT who is this guy?" I said.

"He just said, 'I'm a munchkin and I want to see the stealth,'" Lieutenant Cutrufo said.

Apparently one of the actual munchkins from American film's mythical classic, "*The Wizard of Oz*" wanted to visit our base.

I just shook my head. We once received word John Travolta was supposed to come here and he never showed, so who knows?

This munchkin talk didn't enter my thoughts again until three weeks later. Then, on Sept. 9, a staff member reminded us that the Munchkin was coming. But the usual



chaotic hustle and bustle of a Friday morning in public affairs took me in, and I momentarily forgot that a munchkin from the Land of Oz was coming to Whiteman Air Force Base.

Then as I picked through the usual ocean of e-mails for ideas for the next week's paper I froze.

"Hi, I'm Mickey Carroll," someone said in a high pitched-voice. "And I'm pleased to meet you."

As everyone in our office stood up to greet Mr. Carroll and shake hands, there was a long pause. It was one of those unforgettable moments, like the part of a play when the star takes the stage.

His was the voice millions heard telling Dorothy to "follow the Yellow Brick Road." He was one of 130 of the little people from the big screen. And now he was standing in our office.

We sat down for an interview, and he had so many stories he could contain himself.

He told me of his visits with presidents. We talked about his business, the St. Louis based-Standard Monument Company.

And finally he told me about his friendship with the late Judy Garland, who played Dorothy, that eventually led him to cinema immortality.

Mickey soon left to embark on an all-day tour of our base, but he left our office starstruck.

He has spent the latter days of his life donating to charities hosting fundraisers at hospitals nationwide and providing entertainment services for deployed troops. And



Photo by Staff Sgt. Neo Martin

Mickey Carroll, (center) one of the original Munchkins from the 1937 film "The Wizard of Oz" poses for a photo with Soldiers from the 1-135th Battalion Missouri Army National Guard. He visited Whiteman Sept. 9.

he said he loved every minute of it. He's living the dream, that he "dared to dream."

Mr. Carroll spent the day greeting and hugging each Airman and service member he could get his arms around.

"I've reached heaven," said the St. Louis native. "Every time I meet someone in uniform."

There didn't seem to be an ounce of his 88-pound frame that didn't exude goodness. Here was someone who happened to stumble on something that made him world

famous and wealthy and he used his fame to help others.

In this time of national crisis, it's that caring attitude and giving heart that this country needs.

Too many of us forget what it means to give back to others. Sometimes it takes a national disaster like a hurricane to remind us. Or an 86-year old munchkin.


"I'll never forget this day," Mr. Carroll said just before he left us.

Neither will I.

Education

For more details, visit the education center Web site at <https://www.mil.whiteman.af.mil/509mss/educ/homepage.htm>

Education open house

 The base education center is hosting a golf themed open house from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. today, at the education center lawn.

Lunch, information, golf games and prizes will be provided. For more details, call the education center at 687-2420.

Team Whiteman Community

Changes in women's health clinic

The 509th Medical Group's Women's Health Clinic is temporarily without a provider due to a PCS.

Contact your primary care manager for any women's health concerns.

If you have questions about this temporary absence of the Women's Health Clinic provider, call 1st Lt. Phillip Oliphant, 509th Medical Group Practice Manager, at 687-4288.

AADD seeks volunteers

Airmen Against Drunk Driving, a base organization that promotes safety, is looking for volunteers.

AADD is a basewide program that has volunteers on 24/7 telephone standby for any Airman who feels he or she has had too much to drink and needs a ride home.

AADD's goal is to eliminate cases of driving under the influence and driving while intoxicated on Whiteman and in the surrounding community.

If you are interested or would like more information, contact 2nd Lt. Mary Olsen at 687-6121 or e-mail mary.olsen@whiteman.af.mil.

WOSC hosts auction

The Whiteman Officers' Spouses' Club is sponsoring an art auction Oct. 21, at Mission's End.

Art previewing starts at 6 p.m. and the auction begins at 7 p.m. Proceeds benefit scholarships and charitable gifts. Tickets cost \$10 in advance (until Oct. 17) or \$15 at the door and include hors d'oeuvres and desserts.

Dress is duty uniform or civilian casual. For more information or tickets call Michelle Pepkowitz at 747-6725 or Bobbie Irmischer at 429-6578.


WESC hosts craft show

The Whiteman Enlisted Spouses' Club is looking for vendors for the fall craft show for Nov. 12.

Booths cost \$25 and space is limited. To

register a vendor, or for more details, call Jenette Curtis at 233-3507 or e-mail craftshow2005@yahoo.com.

Food pantry needs donations

 The Whiteman Food Pantry, located in the Family Support Center, needs donations. Donated items benefit Airmen and their families in need. Donations can be given anytime by placing food items in the collection bin permanently located in the commissary.

Family Support

Call 687-7132 for more details on these family support center activities. Events take place at the FSC.

Pre-separation briefing set

A pre-separation briefing for people separating from the military begins 8 a.m. Monday. Representatives from the military personnel flight, family support center, Reserves and finance will provide information. The MPF separations and retirements office schedules members for this briefing. For more information, call them at 687-1500 or 6720.

WIC representative visits base

A WIC representative is available beginning at 8:30 a.m. Tuesday and Thursday.

WIC includes nutrition education, health promotion and a supplemental food program to help women, infants and children who have nutritional needs. For more details, call the WIC office in Warrensburg at 747-2012.

Pre-deployment briefing set

A mandatory pre-deployment briefing for people who are deploying or going on a temporary duty assignment for more than 30 days begins 1 p.m. Wednesday. Spouses are encouraged to attend. This briefing covers information about preparing for deployment and programs available to family members who are left behind.

Class helps with move

A mandatory smooth move seminar for people planning to move overseas in the near future begins at 1 p.m. Thursday. Facilitators will discuss the financial benefits associated with moving and provide a variety of useful resources. PCS orders are not necessary. Spouses are encouraged to attend. Reservations are required.

Information in the EVENTS section of the *Spirit Times* is published on a space available basis. If you would like to advertise a Team Whiteman Community event, e-mail the 509th Bomb Wing Public Affairs Office at spirit.times@whiteman.af.mil, the Friday before publication. Submitting an event does not guarantee publication.

All together now



Photo by Deb Borg

The 509th Mission Support Squadron fielded a team of runners for the Kansas City Marathon Saturday. Team MSS competed in the marathon relay and half marathon categories. Pictured is the relay team consisting of (left to right) Senior Master Sgt. Dan Sherwood, Master Sgt. Michelle Thorsteinson-Richards, Capt. Kathleen O'Neill, Tech. Sgt. Tammy Klonowski and Lt. Col. Lindsey Borg. Not pictured is half-marathon runner Capt. Jocelyn Southerland.

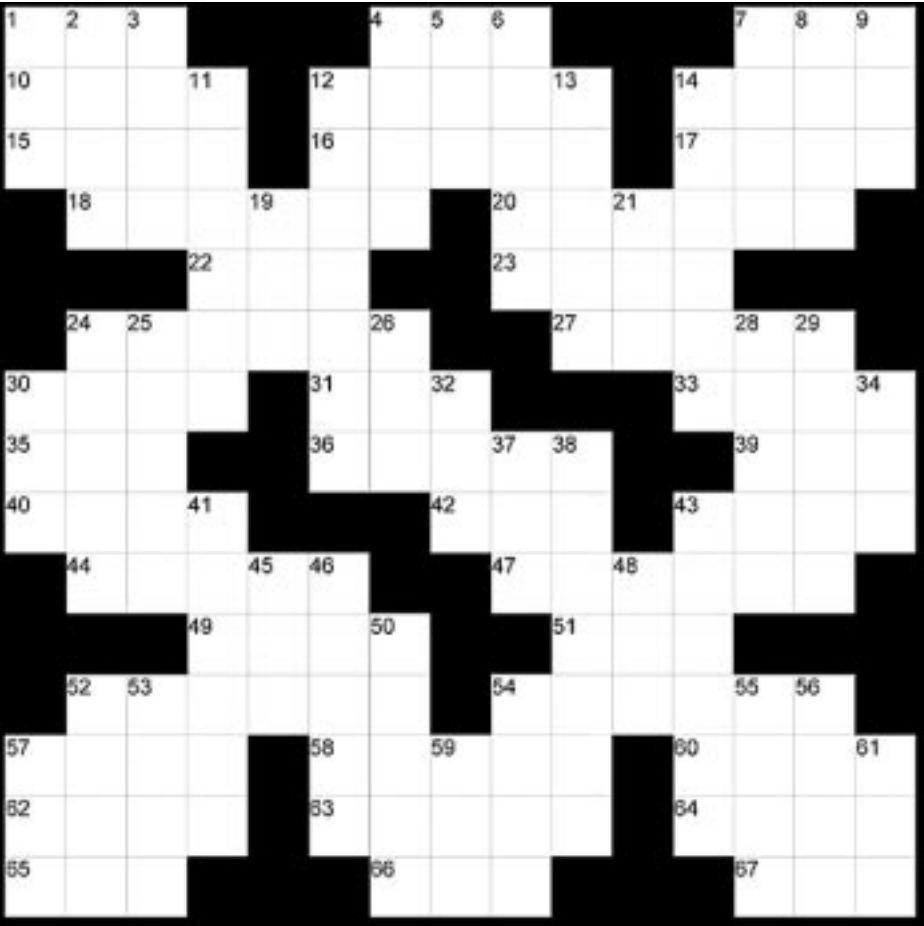
Integrity First, Service before self, Excellence in all we do.

Hispanics in history

By Capt. Tony Wickman
Alaskan Command Public Affairs

ACROSS

- 1. Edge
- 4. Agassi org.
- 7. Scout's org.
- 10. Middle East denizen
- 12. Foreign
- 14. Ship part
- 15. Capsule
- 16. Babysitter
- 17. Russian river
- 18. Stagnation
- 20. Mention
- 22. GOP opponent
- 23. Fibber
- 24. Laughing dogs
- 27. ____ Pavlovich Chekhov
- 30. Ewe sounds
- 31. Actor Chaney
- 33. Pilots with 5+ kills
- 35. Compass dir.
- 36. Cut up
- 39. Head cover
- 40. Dutch colonist in South Africa
- 42. Pod item
- 43. Backbone
- 44. Thoughts
- 47. Greek letters
- 49. Olympic medalist Katarina
- 51. USAF Intel org.
- 52. ____ Noriega; Peru-born astronaut



- 54. Toils away
- 57. ____ Moreno; 1st actress to win an Oscar, Tony, Emmy, & Grammy

- 58. ____ Hinojosa; Hispanic award-winning journalist
- 60. Erase
- 62. Over

- 63. Jabs
- 64. Nil
- 65. Precious stone
- 66. Observe
- 67. Capture

DOWN

- 1. Hit
- 2. Eye part
- 3. Beer type
- 4. Sigh or regret
- 5. Sn on periodic table
- 6. Subject to punishment
- 7. Dueling VP
- 8. Futon
- 9. Everything
- 11. Rueben ____; Hispanic American singer, actor
- 12. Beasts
- 13. ____ Velazquez; first Puerto Rican woman elected to Congress
- 14. Dolores ____; Hispanic American labor leader
- 19. Rep. Congressional counterpart
- 21. Vehicle type
- 24. ____ Hilton; POW camp in Vietnam
- 25. Pitched, as in a ship
- 26. Center of the solar system
- 28. Severo ____; Hispanic



Sept. 23 answers

- Nobel Prize-winning biochemist
- 29. Comes close
- 30. Weekend getaway spot, in short
- 32. Quick sleep
- 34. Sault ____ Marie
- 37. Ocean part
- 38. Saudi Arabian currencies
- 41. Recover
- 43. Cesar ____; Hispanic labor leader (Nat'l Farm Workers Assoc)
- 45. Feel sick
- 46. Trample
- 48. Actress Zadora
- 50. Former Russian rulers
- 52. Credit
- 53. Molecule
- 54. Profile
- 55. Paradise
- 56. Father
- 57. Something to clean a mess
- 59. Caviar
- 61. Small child

Mental health counseling not career ending

By Staff Sgt. Patrick Brown

45th Space Wing Public Affairs

PATRICK AIR FORCE BASE, Fla. — Retired Senior Master Sgt. Patrick McCathern was literally seconds away from death. He hung by a noose tied to his bathroom door, ready to die.

As he felt his last few gasping breaths fill his lungs, he noticed the wagging tail and puppy-dog eyes of his pet, Dunkin, looking up at him. That was enough to make him untie the rope from around his neck.

The incident led Mr. McCathern to seek help, which allowed him to dig himself out of a nearly yearlong depression. He credits the professional help he received at Wilford Hall Medical Center at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas, for helping him pull himself out of what he calls an “unimaginable hell.”

“I would have rather been shot and endure that pain than endure the mental pain,” he said. “But after that stay at the hospital, I did nothing but get stronger.”

Since September 2001, Mr. McCathern has been a spokesperson for the National Institute of Mental Health’s “Real Men. Real Depression.” campaign. He has also spoken at Department of Defense-level conferences, and his public service announcements have been on television and radio.

Today Mr. McCathern works for the Army as a new equipment training instructor at Fort Huachuca, Ariz. He shared his insights and experiences with two full houses at the base theater here Sept. 23.

He discussed depression and suicide — two topics in which he is a subject-matter expert. His aim was to encourage those who have feelings of depression or thoughts of suicide to seek help.

Mr. McCathern said people must realize the long-standing stigma that mental health counseling is detrimental to military advancement is not true. He said seeking counseling doesn’t mean the end of a career.

“One of the big myths is, as soon as you seek any kind of counseling, your career starts going downhill. Your (security) clearance is taken away and you never get it back. That’s wrong,” he said.

After seeking counseling, the Air Force did suspend his security clearance, but only for two weeks. He said it didn’t take him long to get back his top-secret clearance.

Maj. (Dr.) Kimberly Finney, commander of the Life Skills Support Center here, says she has never seen a case where a clearance has been denied because of mental counseling.

“In terms of a security clearance, good judgment and reliability are the underlying tenets of the DoD security guidelines,” she said. “So anytime you have a problem and you’re doing something to prevent further problems, it shows good judgment.”

Unless there is a credible threat to security or people, any counseling held at, or through the Life Skills Support Center, remains confidential, Dr. Finney said.

“Our mission is rehabilitation and return to duty,” she said. “If the Air Force didn’t allow people the opportunity to get better, then we’d be unemployed. If we can’t be helpful, then we can’t be useful.”

Fast Facts

■ Life skills offers many different services for anyone experiencing hardship. They offer individual counseling (active duty only), a healthy thinking class, anger management and marriage counseling. For more information or to make an appointment, call the life skills front desk at 687-4340 or 687-4341.

■ Air Force One Source is a 24/7 service that offers a broad range of help and services and is designed to help you deal with life’s issues. For more information, call 1-800-707-5784 or access their website at www.airforceonesource.com.

■ If you need a wingman call, 1-800-SUICIDE.

‘Coulda, shoulda’

Falcons’ late comeback falls short against Utes



By Wayne Amann

Air Force Academy Public Affairs

SALT LAKE CITY (AFPN) — Two touchdown drives engineered by backup quarterback Adam Fitch late in the fourth quarter were not enough in the Falcons’ 38-35 loss to the University of Utah in front of 41,935 spectators here Sept. 22.

“We could’a, should’a won, it’s the same thing I said last week,” Falcons head coach Fisher DeBerry said. “We just didn’t play all the time. We have to play 60 minutes when we play the defending conference champions.”

Utah (3-1, 1-1) rebounded from its first loss since 2003. The Utes went 12-0 in 2004 while capturing the Mountain West Conference title. Despite losing six offensive starters, including quarterback Alex Smith who was the No. 1 pick in the 2005 NFL draft, Utah did not have to rebuild — they simply reloaded.

Before a nationally televised audience on ESPN, Air Force opened strong when fullback Ryan Williams ran for 34 yards on one carry and put the Falcons up 7-0 with a 1-yard touchdown run.

Utah countered with Smith’s understudy from last year, Brian Johnson. The sophomore signal caller took his team 69 yards in 11 plays, the last being a 1-yard touchdown by Johnson.

After an exchange of punts, Falcon quarterback Shaun Carney flipped a screen pass to wide receiver Jason Brown who tiptoed down the sideline for 29 yards to the Utah 7-yard line. Williams punched it over for the touchdown and a 14-7 lead.

Johnson drew the Utes even again with his second 1-yard touchdown run set up by consecutive gains of 12, 16, 18, 13 and 13 yards.

The next sequence of events

Falcon Update

■ Air Force next takes on rival Navy at 2:30 p.m. Oct. 8. in Annapolis, Md., The Falcons (2-2, 1-2) were scheduled to take on Colorado State University last night.

played out like a bad sitcom.

Air Force free safety Andy Gray recovered a fumbled Donny Heaton punt, but the Falcon offense failed to make a first down. Heaton’s ensuing rugby-style punt was blocked and recovered by Utah on the Air Force 33. Six plays later, Johnson added his third 1-yard touchdown.

On the first play of Air Force’s next possession, halfback Kip McCarthy fumbled a Carney pitch and Utah recovered on the Falcon 12. From there, Johnson hit wide receiver Travis LaTendresse in the end zone.

The Falcons settled down on their next drive thanks, in part, to a spectacular 27-yard reception by Brown on an under-thrown pass to put Air Force deep in Ute territory.

“We had chances to make plays on all sides of the ball when we needed to,” Brown said. “When we didn’t, Utah took full advantage.”

The drive culminated with a Carney-to-Chad Hall-to-Greg Kirkwood reverse for a 10-yard touchdown run.

Utah’s Dan Beardall drilled a 46-yard field goal with 1:06 left in the second quarter to stake his team to a 31-21 halftime cushion.

Their lead ballooned to 17 points in the third quarter when Johnson, who had plenty of time to throw when the Falcons defense used a three-man rush, hit wideout Brian Hernandez for a 60-yard touchdown bomb.



Photos by Ken Carter, AFPN

Falcon wide receiver Jason Brown streaks down the Air Force sideline with a pass as Utah cornerback Ryan Smith, 5, and rover Spencer Toone are in hot pursuit.

Air Force quarterback Shaun Carney looks for running room as fullback Ryan Williams, 45, covers his back by blocking University of Utah defenders.